

within the United States, its territories and possessions, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; and

(2) Any banking facilities of such institutions establishing at military installations overseas, provided the offering of such redemption services has been authorized by the Department of the Treasury.

(j) *Presenter* means the individual requesting the redemption or redemption-exchange of securities.

(k) *Presenting institution* means the organization from which the Federal Reserve Bank receives redeemed securities to be processed via EZ CLEAR. If a paying agent submits separately sorted or mixed cash letters directly to the Bank, using its own ABA code, it is the presenting institution. If a correspondent financial institution submits cash letters on behalf of another institution using the correspondent's ABA code, the correspondent is the presenting institution.

(l) *Redemption* and *payment* are used interchangeably for payment of a security in accordance with the terms of its offering and governing regulations, including redemption-exchange.

(m) *Redemption-exchange* means the authorized redemption of eligible securities for the purpose of applying the proceeds in payment for other securities offered in exchange by the Treasury.

(n) *Registrant* means a person whose name is inscribed on a security as owner, coowner, or beneficiary.

(o) *Security* means a United States Savings Bond of Series A, B, C, D, E, EE, or I and/or a United States Savings Note (Freedom Share).

(p) *Separately sorted cash letter* refers to a bundle of redeemed securities that have been segregated from all other items prior to transmittal to a Federal Reserve Bank via EZ CLEAR.

(q) *Taxpayer identifying number* means a social security account number or an employer identification number.

[53 FR 37511, Sept. 26, 1988; 53 FR 39581, Oct. 7, 1988, as amended at 55 FR 35395, Aug. 29, 1990; 59 FR 10536, Mar. 4, 1994; 63 FR 38042, July 14, 1998]

## Subpart B—Procedures for Qualification

### § 321.2 Eligible organizations.

(a) Organizations eligible to apply for qualification and to serve as paying agents are commercial banks, trust companies, savings banks, savings and loan associations, building and loan associations (including cooperative banks), credit unions, cash depositories, industrial banks, or similar financial institutions which:

(1) Are incorporated under Federal law or the laws of a State, territory or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

(2) In the usual course of business accept, subject to withdrawal, funds for deposit or the purchase of shares;

(3) Are under the supervision of the banking department or equivalent authority of the jurisdiction in which they are incorporated; and

(4) Maintain regular offices for the transaction of business.

(b)(1) An organization that desires to redeem securities must first qualify as a paying agent. An organization that has qualified and is serving as a paying agent must:

(i) MICR-encode data on securities accepted for payment,

(ii) Submit them directly to the Check Department of the appropriate Federal Reserve Bank or Branch or the Regional Check Processing Center, and

(iii) Receive payment of fees by ACH, or arrange to obtain one or more of these services from another financial institution.

(2) All presenting institutions, as defined in § 321.1, must qualify as savings bond paying agents and enroll in EZ CLEAR.

[53 FR 37511, Sept. 26, 1988, as amended at 59 FR 10536, Mar. 4, 1994]

### § 321.3 Procedure for qualifying and serving as paying agent.

(a) *Execution of application-agreement.* An eligible organization wishing to act as a paying agent shall obtain from, execute, and file an application-agreement with the appropriate Federal Reserve Office referred to in § 321.25. The terms of each application-agreement